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FREE RIDE . . . A jaunt in a police car has for too long been reserved for the "wrong kind" of teenager, or so think District Attorney Yvelle Younger (center) and Torrance Police Chief Walter Koenig. Under a new program sponsored by the District Attorney's Young Citizens Council, teenage YCC members are being invited to see the city as guests of their local police departments. Younger hopes that "tagging along" with policemen performing routine duties will help open communications between teenagers and law enforcement officials. Here, Younger and Koenig help YCC member Laurel Rydlek of Inglewood into a police car for a glimpse into the work-a-day world of the men in blue. (Press-Herald Photo)

To Ride in Units

Teens Participate In Police Program

Torrance teenagers participating in the District Attorney's Young Citizens Council have been given the opportunity to cruise the streets in police patrol cars to observe law enforcement officers in action.

District Attorney Evelle Younger announced the new program at a press conference Wednesday at the Torrance Police Station. Police Chief Walter Koenig was on hand to greet Younger and three teenage council members participating in the program.

Under the auspices of the program, Torrance teenagers and young people in many other area cities will board police cars and "tag along" with patrolmen making routine calls around town.

"IT IS our hope," Younger said, "that through this plan, teenagers and the police will be able to obtain a better

understanding of each other. We are sure that this project will benefit the teenagers and the police agencies."

The District Attorney's Young Citizens' Council (DAYCC) was created and organized by Younger's office to increase communication and understanding between youth and the authority structure.

Al Collier, the DA's field operations deputy and coordinator of the youth council, said Younger conceived of the council idea through the realization that prosecution is not enough. Crime prevention must also be a function of the district attorney's office, Collier said.

"THE COUNCIL stresses the concept of the teenager himself speaking out and expressing himself to other teenagers," Collier added. "Teenagers themselves must play an active and dynamic

role in standing up for what they know is right."

Those teenagers who wish to become active in the Young Citizens Council program may contact student or faculty leaders at their high schools.

COLLIER noted that there is an active YCC at Redondo Union High School, where Jim Brooks and Linda Chap- (See TEENS, Page A-2)

Reception Set Today To Honor 'Y' Leader

Meeting Slated Wednesday on Freeway Route

The scion of two informational sessions on the proposed Torrance Freeway will be held Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the South High School cafeteria.

Purpose of the public

meeting is to provide the public with the comparative data, right-of-way costs, and proposed routes of the freeway. The final route and interchange designs will not be adopted until after formal public hearings in August or September.

The Torrance Freeway will extend from the Route One Freeway at Vermont Street (Harbor City) westward and then northward to the San Diego Freeway near Compton Boulevard in Redondo Beach.

Apartment Charred By Flames

Fire broke out in a Torrance apartment house Thursday at 5 a.m., gutting the inside of one upstairs unit. Total damage to the building, located at 4005 W. 242nd St., was estimated at \$20,000.

The occupant of apartment C-11, where the fire apparently originated, suffered minor burns on his left leg. Firefighters listed the victim as David Manitz.

Robert M. King, assistant manager of the apartment building, lacerated his right arm when he broke out a plate glass window in an attempt to arouse sleeping tenants. He was treated at Little Company of Mary Hospital and released.

Fire department spokesmen said all 12 units in the building were damaged by smoke. The six downstairs units also sustained water damage when heat caused a water pipe to break.

Fire investigators believe the blaze was probably caused by a cigaret tossed into a paper trash bag.

THE STATE Division of Highways has proposed 12 alternate routes for the 11-mile freeway. The "blue route," which is the western-most alternative, straddles the boundary between Torrance and Redondo Beach and turns southeast below Pacific Coast Highway. The Torrance City Council has expressed interest in this alternative.

The easternmost proposal, known as the "red route," extends south from the San Diego Freeway along Inglewood Boulevard and continues along a path just east of Anza Avenue. The red route turns east along a route just north of Lomita Boulevard.

Detailed route maps will be available at Wednesday's informational session.

THE STATE Highway Commission, an appointive group of seven citizens, will make the final decision on the freeway route, considering the recommendations of (See FREEWAY, Page A-2)



HARRIETT V. LEECH

Former Treasurer Succumbs

Funeral services for Harriett V. Leech, former city treasurer, were conducted Friday at the Stone and Myers Mortuary Chapel. Entombment was in Inglewood Park Cemetery.

Mrs. Leech, who had lived in Torrance since 1924, died Tuesday.

She lived at 20820 Earl St.

MRS. LEECH was born Aug. 8, 1894, in Phoenix, Ariz. She lived in Hermosa Beach before moving to Torrance in 1924.

First elected city treasurer in 1938, Mrs. Leech served until 1946. She did not seek re-election that year. In 1951, however, was appointed city treasurer after a Superior Court ruling found Mrs. Margaret Fordice incompetent.

Mrs. Leech was elected to the post in 1952 and served until she resigned in July, 1964.

SURVIVING Mrs. Leech are three sons, Weston of Fallbrook, Robert of Corona Del Mar, and Richard of San Francisco; two brothers, George Vale of Hollywood and Bob Vale of Redondo Beach; and four grandchildren.

She has been active in the National Business and Professional Women's Club, the Torrance Woman's Club, and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Wilcox to Head Thailand YMCA For Six Years

The many friends Joe Wilcox has made over the years will gather at the Torrance Family YMCA today to say their last goodbyes and wish Joe success in his new assignment in Thailand.

Receptions for the executive director of the Torrance Family YMCA have been scheduled between 2 and 5 p.m. and 7 and 9:30 p.m.

The Wilcox family will take off for Thailand in mid-August. For the next six years Wilcox will spearhead the YMCA effort in that southeast Asian country, developing programs, training "Y" leaders, extending YMCA programs to outlying cities and supervising a school and year-round youth camp.



JOE WILCOX JR. Super Bunny

of a Saturday Adventure Club.

Wilcox fondly remembers the Torrance parade held years ago for which each organization was entitled to enter one float. Since 300 boys wanted to participate, Wilcox rounded up 16 trucks, tied them together single-file with ribbon, and called it one float. Not a single boy was left out of the fun.

UNDER WILCOX'S leadership, the "Y's" Men first began their annual Christmas tree sales to help support the "Y" program. The first year, they made \$160. Last year, that figure had mushroomed to \$29,000.

Wilcox became interested in the "Y" as the result of camping experiences with the Alhambra YMCA when he was a boy. After graduation from Whittier College and a hitch in the Coast Guard, he went into YMCA work.

An enthusiastic camp director during his summers with the Torrance program, Wilcox developed the "family" concept in camping and programming during his years here. He became interested in the Thailand post after leading a group of teenagers on an Oriental tour last year.



HOLLYWOOD IN TORRANCE . . . Director William Brose (with hand on chin) gives directions to crossing guard Rae Hatcher (at right) for filming of a scene for an educational film being made in Torrance. The crew will spend six to seven days in Torrance. Students from Torrance schools are being used in the film, which is designed to be released to schools throughout the nation. Title of the production is "Red Light, Green Light." (Press-Herald Photo)

Report Issued on Renewal Project

It would not be financially feasible for any private developing company to purchase, improve, and subdivide the Meadow Park urban renewal area.

This is the substance of a report presented to the Redevelopment Agency (City Council) by City Manager Edward J. Ferraro. The report was prepared in response to a May 23 resolution passed by the agency ordering the redevelopment site sold to private enterprise as soon as all property within the site is purchased.

The 56-acre Meadow Park project is located just west of Torrance Municipal Airport.

Ferraro pointed out in his report that the cost of the

Meadow Park project is \$7 to \$8 million and that the land, after improvements, can be sold for only \$2.7 million. No private developer could make a profit from this project.

Furthermore, Ferraro revealed, the plan to sell the development would increase the net project cost \$270,396 and boost the city's local cash share by \$764,386 (in lieu of credit for city-installed site improvements).

A delay of six to nine months resulting from such sale to private enterprise would result in keeping the land off the tax rolls just that much longer, Ferraro concluded.

Agency members praised the report and ordered it filed.

Teenagers Terrorize Motorist

An angry mob of teenage boys attacked a Torrance man Thursday night as he was driving north in the 17000 block of Prairie Avenue.

The victim told police the incident occurred about 8 p.m. when eight or ten youths began pelting his car with eggs. The gang scattered in a nearby field when the victim got out of his car to pursue his attackers.

One gang member approached the victim, shouting obscenities and brandishing a large rock. The rest of the gang then reappeared carrying stones and metal bars. The victim told police he was bombarded with stones as he fled to his car.

As he was driving off, the victim said, a metal bar struck his vehicle, causing a one-foot crease on the finish.

Torrance Soldier Killed - - -

Spec. 4 Bruce R. Wenban was listed by the Department of Defense Friday as being killed in action in Vietnam. Specialist Wenban was the son of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Wenban of 519 Paseo De Los Reyes. No details about his death were released.

Rodeo Performance Today - - -

The final performance of the Torrance Mounted Police-RCA Rodeo will begin today at 2 o'clock at the Del Amo Fairgrounds. Tickets for the rodeo will be available at the gates. Linda Hitchcock is reigning over the rodeo as part of the annual Ranchero Days celebration here.

Citizen Leaders Sought - - -

Prospective members of city commissions will be interviewed by the City Council Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall. Local citizens desiring to fill a vacancy on any of the various commissions have been asked to make application at City Hall and attend Monday night's interview session. This new method of selecting city commissioners was recently established by the City Council to remove "political overtones" from commission appointments. Those who are already members of city commissions need not reapply or attend the interview.